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# Wisdom, Kindness and Appreciation.

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**T**HE most precious attribute in man is wisdom or common sense. Brilliancy pales before it. In every walk of life there is brought home to us every day the value of wisdom. There are people in the world who outstrip their neighbors and competitors in every rivalry. They look at things with keener appreciation; they know things better and

as it were by instinct. These people are generally credited with wisdom. They usually have knowledge. If an invention of striking value comes out they secure it. If a book of surpassing merit is issued they buy it, and the sum of it all is, these people get ahead and the others don't know why. The way the knowing ones are buying the portfolios of "WILD FLOWERS OF AMERICA" is the latest instance, striking and convincing. These people know just as well as if they saw the tangible evidence that they will never have an opportunity to get these portfolios at the nominal figure for which they are now securing them, and the consequence is the wise of both sexes and all ages who know about them are buying them. That's Wisdom.

## KINDNESS.

Next to Wisdom and a beautiful companion for it—is Kindness. There are tens of thousands who have not had the opportunity of seeing the announcements of the Wild Flower portfolios, and would have missed them

entirely had it not been for the KINDNESS of others telling and writing to friends, informing them how and where they can get them. Thousands of these are cutting out coupons and sending them to friends. Isn't this KINDNESS? It is kindness that will be appreciated more and more as the years roll by, when many a man and woman will be heard to say, "I would not have had the 'Wild Flowers of America' if it had not been for my good friend ——." Kindness endureth. Perhaps some others will let their friends know that for a short, short time back numbers of "Wild Flower" portfolios may be procured through the same medium.

## APPRECIATION.

Here follow a few extracts from letters received giving evidence of appreciation. And so this great work is passing on, and millions will lament the lost opportunity when it is too late.

"Wild Flowers of America" fill a long-felt want.

**Amos J. Cummings,**

*U. S. Congressman.*

"Wild Flowers of America" carried out with the enthusiasm of a botanist and the skill of an artist.

**Professor W. Wilson,**

*Chairman U. S. Committee Ways and Means.*

Nothing that has come under my notice is to be compared with the "Wild Flowers of America," by G. H. Buek & Co.

**W. T. Harris,**

*Chairman U. S. Bureau Education, Washington.*

"Wild Flowers of America" for the first time places the native flowers of the United States within the reach of every man, woman and child of our land.

**Amos J. Cummings.**

Regarding "Wild Flowers of America," by G. H. Buek & Co., while there are a number of works in which a few of our more conspicuous plants are figured, there is none so far as I know that is so exhaustive as this.

**Professor F. H. Knowlton,**

*Department of Botany, Smithsonian Institution, Washington.*

"Wild Flowers of America," by G. H. Buek & Co., is a happy idea.

**Professor W. Wilson,**

*Chairman U. S. Committee Ways and Means, Washington.*





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 DOG'S TOOTH VIOLET.  
*ERYTHRONIUM AMERICANUM*.  
 MAY.



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 WATER ARUM.  
*CALLA PALUSTRIS*.  
 JUNE.

PLATE 241.

DOG'S TOOTH VIOLET. ERYTHRONIUM AMERICANUM (LILY FAMILY.)

*Stem weak, rising from a deep, rather small, scale-coated corm; fertile plants bearing two opposite leaves and a solitary nodding flower; leaves oblong-lanceolate, acute at both ends, upper surface mottled; perianth segments six, deep yellow, spreading at the tips.*



N the open woods of March or April, one comes upon a rare symbolism of Death and Resurrection. Thick upon the ground lie the dead leaves of autumn, shriveled and frayed by blasts from the north. Among these sere strewings arise a thousand tender flowers of the Erythronium. Here is one sturdy enough to bear aloft the remnant of what was once a spreading oak-leaf. Near by is a blossom which can scarce expand itself through the rift in the withered maple-leaf that girds it about. Flowers more chaste than these the all-beholding sun does not shine upon. They are stainless, without trace of the black mould which gives them birth. Dark decay is transformed to unsullied purity.

In form these flowers are lily-like, with the segments curved back much as in the Turk's Cap. The color is a bright, rich yellow, contrasting pleasantly with the red-brown of the long anthers. They are among the most striking of the early wild flowers; they are named "Dog's Tooth" because of a fancied resemblance of the small white bulbs that develop from the parent one to the teeth of our canine friend. Linnæus, who had a fancy for making botanical names by translating the popular titles into Latin, called the common European species, Erythronium Dens-canis.

PLATE 242.

WATER ARUM. CALLA PALUSTRIS. (ARUM FAMILY.)

*Smooth perennial; rootstock stout, elongated; leaves ovate-heartshaped on rather long dilated petioles, short-pointed; flowers on separate stalks in an oblong spadix; spathe open, white, sharp-pointed; lower flowers perfect, upper often staminate only; stamens six; fruit a cluster of separate red berries.*



HE WaterArum is no exception to the rule that in this country the most beautiful and interesting of the wild flowers must be sought for in deep forests or in the tangled fastnesses of swamps and bogs. In Europe, Primrose and Violet, Bluebell and Poppy grow in the open fields and roadsides, while the wood flowers are pale and insignificant. With us, however, the fairest, and, what is still more strange, often the most gaily colored of the flowers are the most hermit-like in habit.

Calla Palustris, which is a plant of Europe as well as of America, is much more retiring here than there. Like a recluse who has been forced into uncongenial publicity, its first use of freedom is to retreat once more to solitude. It grows in deep, cool peat-bogs, and like so many of its sister Arums, it is a beautiful little plant. The bright green of the large, heartshaped leaves is an effective setting for the milk-white of the inner side of the floral leaf, and the golden treasure of flowers that nestle against it on their club-shaped spadix. Their rootstock is long and thick, creeping amid the moss. The Calla blossoms in midsummer, later than most of its allies.

The Egyptian Calla, that superb favorite of the greenhouses, is a Richardia and not a true Calla.





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 ONE-FLOWERED CANCER-ROOT.  
*APHYLLON UNIFLORUM.*  
 JULY.



— 244 —  
 BEARD TONGUE.  
*PENTSTEMON PUBESCENS.*  
 JUNE.

PLATE 243.

ONE-FLOWERED CANCER-ROOT. APHYLLON UNIFLORUM. (BROOM-RAPE FAMILY.)

*Plant brown-white, without green coloring-matter ; one-flowered scapes rising from an underground, short, simple or branching stem, which is covered with small appressed scales, while the scapes are naked ; flowers rather large ; corolla five-lobed, two-lipped, the lower spreading ; stamens shorter than the corolla lobes.*

**U**NMISTAKABLE, indeed, is the moral that nature has pointed for us in the spectacle of parasitism and its results. The sure degradation that follows the habit of living upon the exertions of another is illustrated as plainly among plants as among animals. A wholesale instance of parasitism and consequent degradation is that of the great class, the Fungi. Having rendered the possession of green-coloring matter for the digestion of mineral food useless, by their habit of preying upon other plants and upon animals, they have gradually lost the power of existing independently. There is in Nature no inherent tendency to improvement. In conditions of healthy struggle the forces of adaptation carry a plant up the ladder of life. When the plant gets its food without effort, by sheer thievery, these same forces of adaptation bring it down to lower and lower levels of existence.

Some of the higher plants have started upon this downward path. The Dodders in the Morning-glory Family, the Mistletoe and the Indian Pipe are examples. Many of the Figworts, though possessing green-coloring, are partly parasitic, their roots attaching themselves to other plants. An allied family, that of the Broom-rapes, has become completely parasitic, all green-coloring having disappeared.

The One-flowered Cancer-root, Aphyllon uniflorum, belongs to the last family. 'Tis a small plant of a tawny or almost white color ; the leaves being represented by tiny scales. It is parasitic, usually on Golden Rods and Asters, blossoming in April and May, or even later. It has an extensive range in North America—from Canada to the Gulf of Mexico, from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

PLATE 244.

BEARD TONGUE. PENTSTEMON PUBESCENS. (FIGWORT FAMILY.)

*Perennial pubescent ; stems usually clustered, rising from a short, thick root-stock, simple below, branched toward the summit ; root-leaves ovate-oblong, dentate, long-petioled ; stem-leaves opposite, sessile, oblong-lanceolate ; flowers rather large, forming a thyrsoid panicle ; corolla two-lipped, throat filled with a densely-bearded palate.*

**T**HIS pretty plant is not unworthy of its family. Belonging to a group of plants famous more for their beauty than for any other quality, it is inferior to few of them in appearance. It is a native of Eastern North America, ranging from the seaboard to the mid-continent and south to the gulf, extending into Texas. Though rare, it is found in New England and Eastern Canada, but abounds further South and West. It is a denizen of open woods and thickets, and of upland fields, liking best a dry sandy soil. The large showy blossoms are in a long, narrow cluster, the lower opening first, the upper opening in slow succession until the apex of the inflorescence is reached. The period of flowering is from May in the South to as late as July northward. The corolla is two-lipped, almost closed by a projection or "palate" covered with soft white hairs. The color is usually a pale purple, varying to almost white on the one hand, and to a deep rose-purple on the other. One of the five stamens—the name Pentstemon signifies that five is the number of those organs in this plant—consists merely of a stalk without an anther. This stalk or filament is bearded like the palate.





— 245 —  
 SKUNK CABBAGE.  
*SYMPLOCARPUS FÆTIDUS.*  
 APRIL—MAY.



— 246 —  
 FRITILLARY.  
*FRITILLARIA PUDICA.*

PLATE 245.

SKUNK CABBAGE. SYMPLOCARPUS FOETIDUS. (ARUM FAMILY.)

*Plant quite smooth, perennial; rootstock thick and creeping; leaves appearing after the flowers, fleshy, long-petioled, ovate-oblong, veiny, bright green; flowers in a short, dense, rounded spadix, subtended by a large, hood-shaped, fleshy, pointed spathe.*



EUROPE has the Snow-drop, and this country the Skunk Cabbage, as the earliest wild flower of spring. In certain localities in those first warm days of March, or even, mayhap, in February, when winter takes a breathing-spell while nerving himself for his last struggle, this odd plant appears. No other sign of life is there in meadow or forest, save the Alders that hang their yellow tassels by stream or pond, shaking out showers of golden pollen as the breeze lifts them.

"When earth hath felt the breath of spring,  
Though yet on her deliverer's wing  
The lingering frosts of winter cling."

Out of the cold black soil of bog and meadow rises the pointed flower-leaf of the Skunk Cabbage, exquisite in form, curled like some dainty sea-shell. Dark purple is its color, mottled and striped with yellow. Concealed near the base of the cavity of this hood-shaped leaf is the round, compact spike of flowers. When spring is well advanced and the early flower-leaves have melted in mortality, the true foliage-leaves appear in tufts, large and of a bright, delightful green. A very handsome plant is the Skunk Cabbage, despite its unmelodious and unpleasantly suggestive name.

It is the characteristic odor for which the Symplocarpus is most famous, "a strong odor like that of the skunk and also somewhat alliaceous," writes Gray. The strength and disagreeableness of this odor have been much exaggerated. In the open air it is barely noticeable. Its function is to attract the flies necessary for cross-fertilization.

PLATE 246.

FRITILLARY. FRITILLARIA PUDICA. (LILY FAMILY.)

*Stem erect from a compact, scaly bulb; four to twelve inches high, simple, quite smooth; leaves few, linear, alternate, opposite or whorled; flower solitary, terminal, nodding; perianth campanulate; segments six, oblancoate, orange-yellow, with some purple color; capsule obovoid-oblong, obtusely six-angled.*



HANDSOME is the tulip-like flower of European meadows and bogs, the Fritillary, *Fritillaria Meleagris*. It is a low plant, not much over a foot high, with narrow leaves and a single nodding flower at the top of the stalk. This solitary blossom is bell-shaped, dull red in color, with odd lines and markings of a deeper hue inside.

Like so many genera of Western Europe, *Fritillaria* appears in Western North America. Here, instead of one or two species, there are a large number of forms. All are beautiful plants, graceful in habit and showy in flower. The color of the blossom is almost always red or reddish-yellow, with spots and bars and checks of deeper red or purple. *Fritillaria Pudica* is one of the best known of these plants. It has an extensive range in the Rocky Mountain region, from Nevada and Utah to the southerly stretches of Canada. The usually solitary blossom opens in earliest spring. The flower is much like that of the Adder's Tongue, bell-shaped, the segments spreading slightly at the tip. It is of an orange-yellow color, with a suggestion of purple, not spotted nor chequered like most of the genus. The stem rises from a scaly bulb, like that of a Lily. *Fritillus*, Latin for dice-box, has for resemblance sake, given this flower its name.





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ROUND-LEAVED SUN-DEW.

*DROSERA ROTUNDIFOLIA.*

MAY.



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MICHAUX'S SAXIFRAGE.

*SAXIFRAGE MICHAUXII.*

APRIL—JUNE.



PLATE 247.

ROUND-LEAVED SUN-DEW. DROSERA ROTUNDIFOLIA. (SUN-DEW FAMILY.)

*Leaves all radical, rosulate, on long slender ciliate petioles, orbicular, the margin fringed with viscid, gland-tipped, reddish hairs; scape slender, bearing a slender, few-flowered, one-sided raceme, uncoiling as the flowers expand; petals white, five or six; stamens five or six.*



FEW plants excite more general interest and concern than those that live wholly or partly on animal food. Not to mention the Bacteria and many of the Fungi that live parasitically on animals and man, there are isolated groups among the higher plants that support themselves to some extent by entrapping and assimilating the bodies of insects. The Pitcher-plants or Side-saddle flowers, species of *Sarracenia*, are good examples. Of the same habit are the smaller and less known Sun-dews, cousins to the famous *Dionæa*, Venus' Fly-Trap.

The species of *Drosera* are natives of sandy bogs, mostly in temperate regions. The margin of the leaf is fringed with red hairs, each tipped with a round gland. From this gland exudes a drop of a viscid liquid, that glistens in the sunlight; hence the pretty name, "Sun-dew." This strange secretion has much the same solvent power as gastric juice. When an unwary gnat or other insect alights on the surface of the leaf, the marginal hairs, as if they saw a dinner before them, bend in toward the centre of the leaf, cover the unfortunate visitor with their sticky secretion, and so hold him prisoner until the tissues of the leaf have digested as much of him as they can. Then the hairs return to their normal position, awaiting another meal.

*Rotundifolia* is the most common species of *Drosera* in North America. It flowers in late summer.

PLATE 248.

MICHAUX'S SAXIFRAGE. SAXIFRAGA MICHAUXII (LEUCANTHEMIFOLIA). (SAXIFRAGE FAMILY.)

*Perennial; with a short rootstock; stem erect, hairy, much branched; root-leaves rosulate, on long, hirsute petioles, obovate or spatulate, stem-leaves short-petioled, uppermost bract-like, all coarsely lacinate-toothed; flowers in open, compound cymes; petals five, white, three of them heart-shaped at base, the other two narrowed; fruit, two divergent foliicles.*



SAXIFRAGES are not very well-known plants, though abundant in temperate regions in every part of the World. That is, there is very little of poetry and sentiment associated with them—they have missed the written word that gives fame her wings. One European species is, in the language of flowers, the symbol of affection. Doubtless because this kind makes its home on mossy rocks, nestling in the clefts, this idea has become associated with it. Why not give the same meaning to our own rock-growing species?

Weighty, if unacknowledged, is the debt of America to the explorers, the men of science of France. Of this debt the plant before us serves as a remembrancer.

*Saxifraga Michauxii* is named after the sturdy French collector and traveler, whose name is so intimately connected with North American plant-lore. A large proportion of our native plants received names at the hands of this old voyageur. Especially is this the case with the flora of the mountain region of the South. Michaux himself named this Saxifrage, *Leucanthemifolia*; but, as that name had already been given to another species, this one has been recently entitled *Saxifraga Michauxii*.

It is a small plant, growing in cool, springy places in the mountains from Georgia to Virginia, and straying northward. The leaves are deeply cut, though the resemblance to those of the White-weed, which Michaux saw when he named the plant *Leucanthemifolia*, is not very striking. The flowers are white, rather large for a Saxifrage.



PLATE 249.

ANDROSTEPHIUM VIOLACEUM. (LILY FAMILY.)

*Perennial from a rounded corm, enveloped in a few loose membranaceous scales; leaves all radical, narrowly linear, grass-like; scape exceeding the leaves; flowers in a terminal umbel; perianth segments six, blue, united for about half their length into a tube; filaments of the stamens united into a tube on the throat of the perianth.*



NEAR relative of the beautiful Camassias and Squills, and therefore of the Onions, is Androstephium Violaceum. Like so many of the bulbous-rooted Lilies it inhabits the sun-scorched prairies of the West, occurring in western Kansas, straying northward and abundantly southward to Texas. It blossoms in spring, like most of the more delicate prairie flowers. While in the East the most fragile plants are flowering in the shades of our forests throughout the summer, all but the hardiest flowers of the plains hasten to appear in earliest spring, spreading a carpet of brilliant color over the treeless ground. Then, when summer's heats begin to dry the life-giving moisture from the soil, such as live through more than one season, ripen their seed and wither away above ground, leaving only the thickened root or bulb to send up leaves and flowers when spring shall come again.

Androstephium Violaceum is a low plant, not above half a foot high. The leaves are narrow and onion-like. The flowers are rather showy, pale lilac in color. The name Androstephium means "a crown of stamens," because the stamens are united into a ring which crowns the perianth.

PLATE 250.

BUTTERWORT. PINGUICULA LUTEA. (BLADDERWORT FAMILY.)

*Acaulescent; leaves rosulate, oblong-ovate or obovate, margins sparingly ciliate toward the base, with soft, clammy hairs; scapes simple, one-flowered, one foot or so high, viscid-pubescent; flower large, bright yellow; calyx five-lobed, two-lipped; corolla two-lipped, upper lip two-lobed, lower three-lobed, ending in a slender spur.*



PINGUICULA VULGARIS, the common Butterwort, is a small, smooth, purple-flowered plant, growing on moist rocks in the northern part of Europe, Asia and North America. It does not grow further south than Northern New York and Minnesota. With it often grow two tiny native Primroses, Primula Farinosa and Primula Mistassinica. Down in the Gulf States, however, in the shallow pine-barren swamps, three handsome species of Pinguicula are found. Two have blue or violet flowers like Pinguicula Vulgaris. The third, Pinguicula Lutea, has large and showy, bright yellow corollas. This is one of the most beautiful of all the gay, highly-colored flowers that deck the sandy, pine-covered coastal plain. The corolla is irregular, delightfully irregular. It is two-lipped, the lips prettily lobed, and ends in a short spur. The leaves are yellowish-green, clustered in a rosette at the root. The stalks that bear the nodding flowers are naked.

Pinguicula Lutea is found from South Carolina to Florida, and thence westward along the Gulf Coast, straying northward. It is one of the earliest of the spring wild flowers in that region, commencing to blossom in February and continuing until April.





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ANDROSTEPHIUM VIOLACEUM.  
(LILY FAMILY.)



— 250 —  
BUTTERWORT.  
PINGUICULA LUTEA.  
JULY.



PLATE 251.

NAKED MITRE WORT. MITELLA NUDA. (SAXIFRAGE FAMILY.)

*Appressed-pubescent perennial, spreading by slender rootstocks; leaves long-petioled, rising from the rootstock, round-heartshaped or reniform, doubly crenate; scapes slender, usually leafless, bearing a slender few-flowered raceme; petals five, greenish, pinnatifid; fruit a one-celled, two-beaked capsule; seeds black, smooth and shining.*



FLOWER may appeal to us irresistibly because when we were children we gathered it into posies, or wove it into garlands. From its very lack of either dignity or beauty that might forbid familiar appropriation, we deemed it one of our favorites. It was like a homely, good-natured little sister, who receives all the more love because she challenges no admiration. There are delicate little plants of the woodland which rejoice in a charm refused to the flaunting stout-stemmed flowers of meadows and fields. They may not have showy blossoms, nor bright colors, yet there is an indefinable something, a wild forest grace that they have and that other plants have not. Just as the birds of the tropics are endowed with a rainbow plumage, but lack the daintiness of form and the sweetness of note that enrich the forest songsters of the north, so the plants that grow in the full glare of the summer sun and are painted by him with myriad hues, are less bewitching to those nurtured in woodland shades.

The tiny Naked Mitre Wort, whose small flowers have no color but the green of their stem and leaves, is yet a more interesting plant to a refined taste than the gaudy Sunflower. The slender creeping stems, the delicately shaped leaves, the narrow, few-flowered raceme—there is a real if indescribable attractiveness about them all. The curious little capsule, fancifully compared to the mitre of a bishop, with its two short beaks, is much more interesting than the blossom. It opens wide when ripe to disclose the shining black seeds. *Mitella Nuda* is found all the way from the North Atlantic Coast westward to the Rockies.

PLATE 252.

OXYTROPIS LAMBERTI. (PEA FAMILY.)

*Perennial, acaulescent, whole plant sericeous; scapes and leaves rising from a thick, woody rootstock; leaves long-petioled, pinnately compound; leaflets numerous, linear, acute at both ends; flowers numerous in bracted racemes, almost sessile; calyx cylindrical, five-toothed; corolla white or purple.*



ON the Western prairies, a very peculiar disease of cattle has long been known as "loco." The affection usually makes its appearance among stock in early spring or in autumn, when there is little nutritious grass for grazing. The disease is undoubtedly caused by feeding on certain plants of the Pea Family, hence known as "loco-weeds" or "crazy weeds." At first these plants are eaten only when no grass is to be had, but when the animal has once acquired a taste for them, no other food has any attraction for it. The disease is a nervous disorder, finally resulting in mania, loss of sight and death from exhaustion. It is difficult to guard against, as the Loco plants are very common, and the malady seems impossible to cure after it has once made headway, for the afflicted animal dies of starvation if it cannot obtain the beloved poison. A parallel here to the deadly grasp of alcohol and opium upon higher creatures!

The reputed Locos are several species of *Astragalus*, notably *Astragalus Mollissimus*, and *Oxytropis Lamberti*. The latter is a common plant of the Western States and Provinces, inhabiting the Great Plains from Canada to Texas and from the Mississippi to the Rockies. It is a showy plant, covered all over with long silky hairs. The flowers are in rather dense clusters, occasionally white, but usually violet or blue.



— 251 —  
NAKED MITREWORT.  
MITELLA NUDA.  
MAY—JULY.



— 252 —  
OXYTROPIS LAMBERTI.  
(PEA FAMILY.)  
JUNE.



PLATE 253.

DWARF RASPBERRY. RUBUS TRIFLORUS. (ROSE FAMILY.)

*Stems ascending, or usually decumbent, from a slender, somewhat woody rootstock; stipules small; leaves long-petioled, pinnately trifoliate, more rarely quinate, leaflets rhombic-ovate, sharply serrate and obscurely lobed; flowers one to three on short glandular peduncles, small; petals five to seven, white; fruit small.*

"If I were a poet, my sweetest song  
Should have the bouquet of scuppernong,  
With a racy smack in every line  
From the savage juice of the muscadine.  
The russet persimmon, the brown papaw,  
The red wild plum and the summer haw,

Service-berries and mandrake fruit,  
Sassafras bark and ginseng root  
Should make my verse pungent and sweet by turns;  
And the odor of grass and the freshness of ferns,  
The kernel of nuts and the resins of trees,  
The nectar distilled by the wild honey-bees,

Should be thrown in together, to flavor my words  
With the zest of the woods and the joy of the birds.  
Who sings by note, from the page of a book,  
So sweet a tune as the brawl of a brook?  
Shall Homer or shall Anacreon  
Suggest as much as the wind or the sun?"



AURICE THOMPSON, in these vigorous lines, points to the truth so many young poets are apt to forget—that the best inspiration comes in the home acre, in its every day flowers and fruits, in its sunshine—creator of them all.

Among the many delicious fruits that we owe to the Rose Family, some of the finest are produced by members of the genus Rubus—the Raspberries and Blackberries. In this country we have two fine Blackberries, the high Blackberry and the low or Dewberry. Two common Raspberries, a red-fruited one, and a black one, are also native. The showy Purple Mulberry, Rubus Odoratus, is a Raspberry, but the fruit is insipid. It is a plant of flowers, rather than of fruit, promising more than it yields.

Rubus Triflorus is usually placed with the Raspberries, though Gray remarks of it—"appears to be more properly a Blackberry." It is a low plant, the stems usually trailing on the ground and rising at the ends. The leaves are of three, or sometimes five, leaflets. The flowers are small, with white petals. The fruit is small, consisting of a few loose grains. In color it is dark red, with a tart but not unpleasant flavor.

The Dwarf Raspberry is a northern plant, ranging from Labrador to the higher parts of New Jersey and westward. It flowers in June.

PLATE 254.

INDIAN PIPE, CORPSE PLANT. MONOTROPA UNIFLORA. (PINE-SAP FAMILY.)

*Plant parasitic, fleshy, whitish; stem erect, smooth, bearing numerous small, scale-like leaves and a single large flower at summit; sepals two to five, scale-like; petals usually five, wedge-shaped, enlarged at base; stamens mostly ten, with kidney-shaped anthers; seeds numerous, very small.*



HEN Emerson enumerates "quaint pipes" among his "herbs and simples of the wood," he must have the Indian Pipe, Monotropa Uniflora, in mind. This is one of the oddest of plants. It has an individuality all its own. Its relative, the Pine-sap, a native of European, as well as of American woods, has far less character.

The Indian Pipe is leafless and has no green color. The stem is clothed with scales, which are all that is left to it of leaves. The whole plant is usually white in color, but is often of a bluish, more rarely of a pinkish hue. It is found in the deep rich woods of latest autumn. The early frosts often overtake it and turn it black like a withered Fungus. Like the Fungi, it feeds on decaying vegetable matter in the soil, its want of green coloring-matter preventing it from taking nourishment from the air. Probably, when quite young, it is a root-parasite.

Growing in clumps in shaded woods, it has a most uncanny look against the black rich soil. There is something ghostly about its unhealthy white that makes the name of Corpse Plant very appropriate. No less to the point is its more common designation, "Indian Pipe." The straight stem with the nodding flower at top imitates very neatly a small tobacco pipe.





— 253 —

DWARF RASPBERRY.

RUBUS TRIFLORUS.

MAY.



— 254 —

INDIAN PIPE, CORPSE PLANT.

MONATROPA UNIFLORA.

JUNE—SEPT.



PLATE 255.

SCENTED WATER-LILY. CASTALIA (NYMPHÆA) ODORATA. (WATER-LILY FAMILY.)

*Rootstock large, thick, sparingly branched; leaves long-petioled, orbicular, obtuse at apex, deeply heart-shaped at base with a narrow sinus, thick, often purplish beneath; flowers long-peduncled; sepals four; petals many, white, grading into stamens; stamens many.*

"Floating water-lilies, broad and white,  
Which lit the oak that overhung the edge  
With moonlight beams of their own watery light."—SHELLEY.



QUALLY beautiful is Bryant's picture of these superb flowers:

"To-morrow noon  
How proudly will the water-lily ride  
The brimming pool, o'erlooking, like a queen,  
Her circle of broad leaves."

We could have no more faithful description of the Water-lily at home, her many white petals guarding the golden heart of the flowers, resting lightly on the still water, surrounded by the flat green leaf-pads. This is one flower which we can vaunt as having perfume, while its European sister has none. Castalia Alba, much like our Odorata in other respects, is inodorous. There is a handsome variety of our common white-flowered species that has petals of a delicate bluish-pink or even of a deep rosy red color. A Florida species has bright yellow flowers.

Castalia Odorata is a common plant of North America, especially in its higher latitudes. Southward it seems to disappear in the interior, but is frequent along the coast. The delicate perfume that makes the Water-lily so attractive is lacking in the southern form. The time of flowering is from June to the close of summer. The many-rowed petals unfold one by one as the rising sun reddens the surface of pond or stream, closing as he begins his journey through the western sky to sink to a new day.

PLATE 256.

YELLOW POND-LILY. NYMPHÆA (NUPHAR) ADVENA. (WATER-LILY FAMILY.)

*Smooth aquatic; rootstock deep, thickened; leaves thick, usually floating, on long petioles, ovate-oblong, obtuse at apex, deeply heart-shaped at base, margin obscurely dentate; flowers long peduncled; sepals usually six, large, yellow; petals more numerous, small; stamens very numerous; fruit compound, consisting of numerous united carpels.*

"Where the dark waters lave,  
Where the tall rushes wave,  
Safe from rude winds that rave,  
Floats the fair lily."—ARLO BATES.



NEAR relative of the beautiful Castalia is the Yellow Pond-lily, Nymphæa. The name Nymphæa is usually applied to the White Water-lily, the yellow being called Nuphar. The name was given the Water-lilies by the Greeks, who appropriately dedicated these aquatic plants to the nymphs of fountain and lake. The Yellow Pond-lily is sometimes called Frog-lily or Splatter-dock, for it has a depraved taste for growing in slimy ponds and sluggish streams. It is altogether a coarser and less handsome flower than its beautiful cousin. As in the White Water-lily, the leaves float on the surface of the water. They are much like those of the Castalia, but are oblong instead of round. They are light and spongy, full of air, well fitted to rest on water. The flower is not handsome. The showiest part is the calyx. This is colored to look like petals. Usually bright yellow in tint, it is sometimes blotched with purple-red.

The Yellow Water-lily is even more common in this country than its aristocratic cousin. It is a very familiar object in pools and bogs, flowering from May until the close of the season.





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SCENTED WATER-LILY.

CASTALIA ODORATA

JULY.



— 256 —

YELLOW POND-LILY.

NYMPHÆA ADVENA.

JUNE.



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